IOWA BIRD LIFE



Vol. 53 No. 3 September 1983

Published by the

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

VOL. 53 No. 3 SEPTEMBER 1983 PAGES 61-80

CONTENTS

BIRDS OF FRANKLIN CO. 63-68
PIPING PLOVER IN POTTAWATAMIE CO. 69-70
FIELD REPORTS 71-76
GENERAL NOTES 77
BOOK REVIEWS 77-79
NOTES 79-80

OFFICERS OF THE IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
President — Michael Newlon, 408 Wales St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240
Vice-President — Carl Bendorf, 825 7th Ave., Iowa City, Iowa 52240
Secretary — Francis Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, Iowa 50703
Treasurer — Hank Zaletel, 715 West St., Colo, Iowa 50056
Editor — Peter C. Petersen, 235 McClellan Blvd., Davenport, Iowa 52803
Librarian — Mrs. Beryl Layton, 1560 Linmar Drive, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402
Executive Council:
Dr. W. Ross Silcock, Route 2, Malvern, Iowa 51551
Raymond Cummins, 814 S. Drake St., Centerville, Iowa 52544
Beth Proescholdt, Liscomb, Iowa 50148
Marlys Huff, 310 S. 18th Ave., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

Iowa Bird Line phone number — 319-622-3353

The Iowa Ornithologists' Union was organized at Ames, Iowa, February 28, 1923, for the study and protection of native birds and to promote fraternal relations among Iowa bird students.

The central design of the Union's official seal is the American Goldfinch, designed State Bird of Iowa in 1933.

Publication of the Union: Mimeographed letters, 1923-1928; THE BULLETIN 1929-1930; IOWA BIRD LIFE beginning 1931.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: $12.00 a year on a calendar year basis, single copies $3.00. Subscription to the magazine is included in all paid memberships, of which there are six classes as follows: Life Member, $250.00, payable in four equal installments; Supporting Member, $15.00 a year; Family Member, $15.00 a year; Regular Member, $12.00 a year; Junior Member (under 16 years of age), $6.00 a year.

EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICE
235 McCLELLAN BLVD.
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803

Published quarterly by the Iowa Ornithologists' Union at 235 McClellan Blvd., Davenport, Iowa 52803. Second class postage paid at Davenport, Iowa. Subscription $12.00, single copies $3.00.

A Partial List of the Birds of Franklin County, Iowa: A View From the 1890s.

JIM DUCEY
910 N. 49th St.
OMAHA, NEB. 68132

During a recent review of historic document pertaining to Nebraska birds, I located a collection of material that was the personal papers of a Frank H. Shoemaker. This material was being stored in the archives of the Love Library at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. In addition to notes on Nebraska birds, there was a limited amount of printed material and field notes dealing with Iowa's avifauna. One particularly interesting find was a private published list of the birds of Franklin County, Iowa as well as oological records from the same area. The information was gathered during the 1890s.

Frank Henry Shoemaker was born on 2 April, 1875, at DeWitt in Clinton County, Iowa. His parents had moved to DeWitt in 1853 from Illinois. When the Shoemakers arrived in Iowa, their homestead was purchased from government land that was available for $1.25 per acre. In 1864, after the war, S.H. Shoemaker, Frank's father, started the DeWitt Observer.

The family continued to be in the publishing business until moving to southwest Louisiana in 1888. However, within two years they moved back to Iowa and settled at Hampton, Franklin County, Iowa in the fall of 1890.

It was probably around this time of moving that birds became an avid pursuit of a fifteen year old boy who was raised on the Iowa prairie. The field notes that were available show that Frank began collecting eggs and maintaining oological set record in 1890.

When not attending school, working at the office in Franklin, or around the home farm, Frank was afield observing birds, collecting and preparing bird specimens and eggs, and keeping records of what he saw along the creeks and on the prairie.

Not only were sight observations made without the aid of binoculars but at this time in ornithological history a shotgun was often the observers main field aide. Shoemaker's notes on mounted specimens and egg sets were written following a detailed, set pattern, e.g.:

Marsh Hawk (**Circus hudsonius**) March 25, 1893
Near Reeve, Franklin county, Iowa. Male. In excellent plumage. Length 18; extent 38.5; wing 13; tail 8.75; middle toe extent of foot 3; feet, iris, and toes, yellow, cere yellowish; bill black at tip shading to bluish.

During the breeding season, Frank and an occasional companion would search for nests. They tramped for miles each day collecting egg sets or noting the location of a nest so a partial set could be completed prior to being collected. Not all nests observed were subject to becoming an oological record. On some occasions the contents were noted in field notes.

Entries for the data kept on egg sets would be similar to this example: Red-tailed Hawk (**Buteo borealis**) May 15, 1893
3 miles northeast of Hampton, Iowa. Set 4, mark ¼. Incubation in 2 eggs well started, 1 barely begun. Measurements: 2.45 x 1.88, 2.45 x 1.88, 2.40 x 1.87. Two eggs well marked with brown splotches. Nest composed of sticks (some of them 1 inch in diameter and 3 feet long), coarse weed-stalks, a few cornhusks; a bulky structure little cupped, with a few leaves, pieces of bark from trees and grapevines, and a few downy feathers, probably from the female hawk. Location of the nest was

peculiar, being in an isolated box elder on the creek bank 25 feet up, the largest of the half dozen trees within 100 yards.

Other residents of the Hampton area relayed their finds to Frank. He wrote that "I have often experienced a feeling of pleasure when some well-meaning friend has told me of a wonderful 'find', and offered to lead me to the scene of the discovery, and almost as often have gone, bubbling over with gratitude, to find upon reaching the field that the discovery was very commonplace. For example, there was incident of last June, when a well-meaning youth led me into the country to see three nests of the "Swamp Song Sparrow", which proved to be those of the Red-winged Blackbird. — There, also, was the 'nighthawks' nest, which proved to be that of the Great Crested Flycatcher; the 'Bobolink's' eggs which in reality a Lark Sparrow laid; the 'Northern Shrike' which was a Blue Jay. These are samples."

In addition, there were other problems with being known as a bird watcher. On 9 February 1895, the field notes read "I will never again confide anything I happen to know to a person I meet in the woods. While I was out Thursday, Jan. 31st, I met a fellow who looked reasonably intelligent, and fell into conversation with him. I told him I was hunting for owls' nests, a fact which greatly surprised him, as he did not know they were nesting as early. Later we spoke of eagles; he mentioned having seen several in Nebraska. It now came to light that this Mr. T —— stated in Geneva that I was 'hunting all over the grove for eagle's eggs.' However, as an owl and an eagle are the same to a large class of people, I can live through it I believe."

The available field notes from Franklin County cover egg sets collected from 1890 to 1898, with field notes available for 1893 and 1895. But after about five years of observation, Frank Shoemaker had a "Partial List of the Birds of Franklin County, Iowa" privately published. It was dated July 6, 1896 and a copy was mailed on this date to each member of the Iowa Ornithological Association. This list was found in the printed form among the archival material at Lore Library and is one of three known papers published on Iowa birds.

In January of 1895, the recent high school graduate began correspondence training in general stenography with a school in Omaha, Nebraska. This correspondence was with Frank's cousin, Elizabeth Van Sant of the Van Sant School of Stenography. As this training developed, the decision to move to Omaha was reached. So some time in 1897 Frank Shoemaker moved to Omaha. There he was to continue to pursue his birding interests. But now it was watching birds at a variety of locations including such historic birding hot-spots at Cut-off Lake north of Omaha and Childs Point in northeast Sarpy County. Mr. Shoemaker was also eventually to become a charter member and officer of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union that started in 1899.

The early records of this young scientific oologist and general ornithologist growing up in the untamed wilds of Franklin County provide both an interesting and useful historical perspective of the avifauna present in the early 1890s. This view could be compared to current conditions to illustrate some changes that have occurred in Iowa's bird life as the state was settled and developed.

Known publications by Frank H. Shoemaker that deal with Iowa birds are:

Shoemaker, F.H. 1892. The Crossbill in Iowa. **Oologist** 9:77.

————. 1896. Seabirds that visit Iowa. **Iowa Ornithologists** 2:31-34.

————. 1896b. A partial list of the birds of Franklin County, Iowa. Published by the author, 16 pp.

The following list has been photographed directly from the bird list printed in 1896.

INTRODUCTION.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, situated in central northern Iowa, was originally for the most part prairie, with some marsh land. Timberland is found principally along the water-courses, none of which attain any great size. There are no lakes. Agriculture has considerably changed the topography of the county; timberland is rapidly being cleared away, the prairies cultivated, and even that portion which was originally marshland almost entirely drained and planted to crops; all of which has an effect upon bird life. Hampton, the center of these observations, is near the middle of the county, and is situated on latitude 42° 44′.

I do not claim for this list of Franklin county birds that it even approaches completeness; the period of observation has been a little more than five years, but other matters have so occupied my time that no opportunity has been given for systematic study in this branch. Especially is the list deficient as regards the migrating species; to secure a comparatively complete list of these would require continual and careful attention throughout the migrating seasons, and that I have been unable to give. This list is the result of observations made at odd times; a method not at all conducive to the best results.

No species enumerated, however, is of presumed or probable occurrence; all observations have been personally made, with a very few exceptions, in which cases the information has been derived from perfectly authentic sources. Many birds which from their known habitat and the character of their preferred surroundings must occur here more or less frequently are omitted because of the lack of absolute proof. Some species I have seen and been unable to identify positively without closer examination than was permitted; such, of course, can find no place in the list.

The division and subdivision into orders, families, etc., and the numbers, as well as the names, common and scientific, are those of the Nomenclature of the American Ornithologists' Union. It will be understood that any statement such as "common" summer resident, "abundant" migrant, "rare" visitant, etc., must be taken with regard to the comparative abundance of the species concerning which such statement is made; for example, the Red-tailed Hawk and the Bald Eagle are both classified as "fairly common" in their occurrence, though the former is perhaps twenty times as often seen as the latter.

Frank H. Bennett

HAMPTON, JULY 6TH, 1896.

A copy of the List of Franklin County Birds is mailed on the above date to each member of the IOWA ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

BIRDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA.

ORDER PYGOPODES,
THE DIVING BIRDS.

Family URINATORIDÆ—The Loons.

7 *Urinator imber* LOON.
Regularly seen during migrations.

11 *Urinator lumme* RED THROATED LOON.
A rare winter visitant.

ORDER LONGIPENNES,
THE LONG-WINGED SWIMMERS.

Family LARIDÆ The Terns.

69 *Sterna forsteri* FORSTER'S TERN.
Of frequent occurrence as a migrant.

77 *Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis* BLACK TERN.
A common species, generally seen during migrations, though a few are resident throughout the summer.

ORDER STECANOPODES,
THE TOTIPALMATE SWIMMERS.

Family PHALACROCORACIDÆ—The Cormorants.

120 *Phalacrocorax dilophus* DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANT.
Regular migrant, not common.

Family PELECANIDÆ—The Pelicans.

125 *Pelecanus erythrorhynchus* AM. WHITE PELICAN.
Occasional migrant.

ORDER ANSERES,
THE LAMELLIROSTRAL SWIMMERS.

Family ANATIDÆ—The Ducks and Geese.

129—*Merganser americanus*—AMERICAN MERGANSER.
Fairly common as a migrant.

130—*Merganser serrator*—RED-BREASTED MERGANSER
Migrant, oftener seen than the preceding.

131—*Lophodytes cucullatus*—HOODED MERGANSER.
While more common as a migrant, it is probable that this species is occasional also as a summer resident, as mature birds have been seen during latter May.

132 *Anas boschas* MALLARD.
Abundant migrant.

135 *Anas strepera* GADWALL.
Fairly common migrant.

137 *Anas americana* BALDPATE.
Fairly common migrant.

139 *Anas carolinensis* GREEN-WINGED TEAL.
Common migrant.

140 *Anas discors* BLUE-WINGED TEAL.
Common migrant.

142 *Spatula clypeata* SHOVELLER.
Fairly common migrant.

143 *Dafila acuta* PINTAIL.
Abundant migrant.

144 *Aix sponsa* WOOD DUCK.
Summer resident, not common.

146 *Aythya americana* REDHEAD.
Common migrant.

147 *Aythya vallisneria* CANVAS BACK.
Rare migrant.

148—*Aythya marila nearctica*—SCAUP DUCK.
Abundant migrant.

149—*Aythya affinis*—LESSER SCAUP DUCK.
Abundant migrant.

150—*Aythya collaris*—RING-NECKED DUCK.
Migrant, not abundant.

153—*Charitonetta albeola*—BUFFLEHEAD.
Abundant migrant.

169—*Chen hyperborea*—LESSER SNOW GOOSE.
Abundant migrant.

172—*Branta canadensis*—CANADA GOOSE.
Abundant migrant.

NOTE.—Species Nos. 148, 149, 150 and 153 have been found breeding more or less commonly at Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo county, only a few miles from the Franklin county line. In the absence of any record of their nidification within our limits, however, they must be classed as migrants; the above being, it is believed, the most southern record of their nesting.

ORDER HERODIONES,
THE HERONS, ETC.

Family ARDEIDAE—The Herons and Bitterns.

190—*Botaurus lentiginosus*—BITTERN.
A fairly common summer resident.

194—*Ardea herodias*—GREAT BLUE HERON.
Summer resident, not common.

201—*Ardea virescens*—GREEN HERON.
Common summer resident.

202—*Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*—BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON.

The only record of this species in Franklin county is that of a specimen seen May 3d, 1895.

ORDER PALUDICOLAE,
THE CRANES, RAILS, ETC.

Family GRUIDAE—The Cranes.

206—*Grus mexicana*—SANDHILL CRANE.
Abundant migrant.

Family RALLIDAE—The Rails, Coots, etc.

208—*Rallus elegans*—KING RAIL.
Rare summer resident.

221—*Fulica americana*—COOT.
Summer resident, not common.

ORDER LIMICOLAE,
THE SHORE BIRDS.

Family SCOLOPACIDAE—The Snipes, Sandpipers, etc.

230—*Gallinago delicata*—WILSON'S SNIPE.
Common migrant.

254—*Totanus melanoleucus*—GREATER YELLOW-LEGS
Common migrant.

255—*Totanus flavipes*—YELLOW-LEGS
Common migrant.

261—*Bartramia longicauda*—BARTRAMIAN SANDPIPER
Common summer resident.

263—*Actitis macularia*—SPOTTED SANDPIPER.
Abundant summer resident.

264—*Numenius longirostris*—LONG-BILLED CURLEW.
Rare migrant.

Family CHARADRIIDAE—The Plovers.

272—*Charadrius dominicus*—GOLDEN PLOVER
Abundant migrant.

273—*Aegialitis vocifera*—KILLDEER.
Common summer resident.

ORDER GALLINAE,
THE GALLINACEOUS BIRDS.

Family TETRAONIDAE—The Grouse, Partridges, etc.

289—*Colinus virginianus*—BOB-WHITE.
Resident; coveys are occasionally seen, but the number is rapidly decreasing.

300—*Bonasa umbellus*—RUFFED GROUSE.
Resident, not common.

305—*Tympanuchus americanus*—PINNATED GROUSE.
A fairly common resident.

ORDER COLUMBAE,
THE PIGEONS.

Family COLUMBIDAE—The Pigeons.

315—*Ectopistes migratorius*—PASSENGER PIGEON.
A flock of about twenty birds was seen frequently in Mayne's Grove during the spring of 1893, and one of the birds was found dead; this is the only record.

316—*Zenaidura macroura*—MOURNING DOVE.
An abundant summer resident.

ORDER RAPTORES,
THE BIRDS OF PREY.

Family CATHARTIDAE—The American Vultures.

325—*Cathartes aura*—TURKEY VULTURE.
A rare species, sometimes seen in summer.

Family FALCONIDAE—The Falcons, Hawks, etc.

331—*Circus hudsonius*—MARSH HAWK.
A fairly common summer resident.

332—*Accipiter velox*—SHARP-SHINNED HAWK.
Summer resident, not common. Common migrant.

333—*Accipiter cooperi*—COOPER'S HAWK.
Common summer resident.

337—*Buteo borealis*—RED-TAILED HAWK.
A fairly common summer resident; the species has been known to remain here, however, during several winters.

347a—*Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*—AMERICAN ROUGH LEGGED HAWK.
An occasional migrant.

352—*Haliaetus leucocephalus*—BALD EAGLE
Resident, fairly common for this species; most numerous during spring migration, when as many as three or four have been seen at once.

357—*Falco columbarius*—PIGEON HAWK.
Fairly common migrant.

360—*Falco sparverius*—SPARROW HAWK.
Occasional summer resident.

364—*Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*—OSPREY.
Occasional during migrations.

Family STRIGIDAE—The Owls.

365—*Strix pratincola*—BARN OWL.
Presumably a summer resident; species noted once only.

Family BUBONIDAE.

366—*Asio wilsonianus*—LONG EARED OWL.
Common resident.

367—*Asio accipitrinus*—SHORT EARED OWL.
A common species during winters, abundant at times.

373—*Megascops asio*—SCREECH OWL.
Fairly common resident.

375—*Bubo virginianus*—GREAT HORNED OWL.
Resident, not common.

376—*Nyctea nyctea*—SNOWY OWL.
A rare winter visitant.

ORDER COCCYGES,
THE CUCKOOS, ETC.

Family CUCULIDAE—The Cuckoos.

387—*Coccyzus americanus*—YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO.
A summer resident, of fairly common occurrence.

388—*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*—BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO.
Summer resident, not so common as the preceding species.

Family ALCEDINIDAE—The Kingfishers.

390—*Ceryle alcyon*—BELTED KINGFISHER.
Common summer resident.

ORDER PICI,
THE WOODPECKERS.

Family PICIDAE—The Woodpeckers.

393—*Dryobates villosus*—HAIRY WOODPECKER.
A resident species, but it is not common at any season.

394—*Dryobates pubescens*—DOWNY WOODPECKER.
Common resident.

406—*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*—RED-HEADED WOODPECKER.
A common summer resident.

409—*Melanerpes carolinus*—RED BELLIED WOODPECKER
A single bird of this species was seen near Hampton on March 1st, 1896, this being the only record of its occurrence.

412—*Colaptes auratus*—FLICKER.
Common summer resident; the most numerous representative of the order.

Family CORVIDAE—The Crows and Jays.

477—*Cyanocitta cristata*—BLUE JAY.
Abundant resident.

488—*Corvus americanus*—AMERICAN CROW.
Abundant resident

Family ICTERIDAE—The Blackbirds, Orioles, etc.

494—*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*—BOBOLINK.
Common summer resident.

495—*Molothrus ater*—COWBIRD
Abundant summer resident.

498—*Agelaius phœniceus*—RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD.
Abundant summer resident.

501—*Sturnella magna*—MEADOW-LARK.
Abundant summer resident.

501b—*Sturnella magna neglecta*—WESTERN MEADOW-LARK.
A fairly common summer resident.

506—*Icterus spurius*—ORCHARD ORIOLE
Common summer resident.

507—*Icterus galbula*—BALTIMORE ORIOLE
More abundant than the preceding.

511b—*Quiscalus quiscula æneus*—BRONZED GRACKLE.
Abundant summer resident.

Family FRINGILLIDAE—The Finches, Sparrows, etc.

517—*Carpodacus purpureus*—PURPLE FINCH.
Migrant, not common.

521—*Loxia curvirostra minor*—AMERICAN CROSSBILL.
A winter visitant; not common. Flocks of from twenty to thirty birds were noticed in November, 1890; November and December, 1891; January and February, 1892. A single bird was seen April 16, 1892, and one pair April 19, 1896.

ORDER MACROCHIRES,
THE GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS, ETC.

Family CAPRIMULGIDAE—The Goatsuckers.

417—*Antrostomus vociferus*—WHIPPOORWILL.
Summer resident, not common.

420—*Chordeiles virginianus*—NIGHTHAWK.
Common summer resident.

Family MICROPODIDAE—The Swifts.

423—*Chætura pelagica*—CHIMNEY SWIFT.
Abundant summer resident.

Family TROCHILIDAE—The Hummingbirds.

428—*Trochilus colubris*—RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD.
Common summer resident.

ORDER PASSERES,
THE PERCHING BIRDS.

Family TYRANNIDAE—The Tyrant Flycatchers.

444—*Tyrannus tyrannus*—KINGBIRD.
Abundant summer resident.

452—*Myiarchus crinitus*—CRESTED FLYCATCHER.
Common summer resident.

456—*Sayornis phœbe*—PHŒBE.
Common summer resident.

461—*Contopus virens*—WOOD PEWEE.
A fairly common summer resident.

467—*Empidonax minimus*—LEAST FLYCATCHER.
Summer resident, not common.

Family ALAUDIDAE—The Larks.

474b—*Otocoris alpestris praticola*—PRAIRIE HORNED LARK.
Common resident.

528—*Acanthis linaria*—COMMON REDPOLL.
A winter visitant, abundant some years, rare or absent others.

529—*Spinus tristis*—AMERICAN GOLDFINCH.
Common resident, abundant during summer.

533—*Spinus pinus*—PINE SISKIN.
Winter visitant, fairly common.

**—*Passer domesticus*—ENGLISH SPARROW.
Superabundant; ever-increasing; resident(!); "a nuisance without a redeeming quality."

534—*Plectrophenax nivalis*—SNOWFLAKE.
Winter visitant; not a common species.

546—*Ammodramus savannarum passerinus*—GRASSHOPPER SPARROW.
Summer resident, not common.

552—*Chondestes grammacus*—LARK SPARROW.
A fairly common summer resident.

558—*Zonotrichia albicollis*—WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.
Common migrant.

559—*Spizella monticola*—TREE SPARROW.
Abundant winter visitant.

560—*Spizella socialis*—CHIPPING SPARROW.
Common summer resident.

563—*Spizella pusilla*—FIELD SPARROW.
Common summer resident.

567—*Junco hyemalis*—SLATE-COLORED JUNCO.
Abundant winter visitant.

581—*Melospiza fasciata*—SONG SPARROW.
Common summer resident.

585—*Passerella iliaca*—FOX SPARROW.
Common migrant.

587—*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*—TOWHEE
Common summer resident.

595—*Habia ludoviciana*—ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK.
Common summer resident.

598—*Passerina cyanea*—INDIGO BUNTING
Summer resident, not common.

604—*Spiza americana*—DICKCISSEL.
Abundant summer resident.

Family TANAGRIDAE—The Tanagers.

608—*Piranga erythromelas*—SCARLET TANAGER.
Summer resident, not common.

Family HIRUNDINIDAE—The Swallows.

611—*Progne subis*—PURPLE MARTIN.
Common summer resident.

612—*Petrochelidon lunifrons*—CLIFF SWALLOW.
Abundant summer resident.

613—*Chelidon erythrogaster*—BARN SWALLOW.
Common summer resident.

616—*Clivicola riparia*—BANK SWALLOW.
Common summer resident.

Family AMPELIDAE—The Waxwings

619—*Ampelis cedrorum*—CEDAR WAXWING.
A resident species, but very irregular; months sometimes pass without a single specimen being seen, while it is likely to appear in large flocks at any season.

Family LANIIDAE—The Shrikes.

622a—*Lanius ludovicianus excubitoides*—WHITE-RUMPED SHRIKE.
Most common during the summer; resident in small numbers.

Family VIREONIDAE—The Vireos.

624—*Vireo olivaceus*—RED-EYED VIREO.
Fairly common summer resident.

627—*Vireo gilvus*—WARBLING VIREO.
Fairly common summer resident.

Family MNIOTILTIDAE—The Wood-Warblers.

636—*Mniotilta varia*—BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER.
Summer resident and migrant; fairly common.

647—*Helminthophila peregrina*—TENNESSEE WARBLER
Migrant, but irregular; occurring in great numbers some years, while there are years when it is seldom seen.

648—*Compsothlypis americana*—PARULA WARBLER.
Migrant, not abundant.

652—*Dendroica aestiva*—YELLOW WARBLER.
Abundant summer resident.

655—*Dendroica coronata*—MYRTLE WARBLER.
Abundant migrant.

657—*Dendroica maculosa*—MAGNOLIA WARBLER.
Migrant, not common.

659—*Dendroica pensylvanica*—CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER.
Common summer resident.

661—*Dendroica striata*—BLACK POLL WARBLER.
Migrant, not abundant.

662—*Dendroica blackburniae*—BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER
Fairly common migrant.

672—*Dendroica palmarum*—PALM WARBLER
Common migrant.

674—*Seiurus aurocapillus*—OVEN BIRD.
Summer resident, not common.

681a—*Geothlypis trichas occidentalis*—WESTERN YELLOW-THROAT.
Common summer resident.

683—*Icteria virens*—YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT.
Fairly common summer resident.

687—*Setophaga ruticilla*—AMERICAN REDSTART.
Abundant summer resident.

Family TROGLODYTIDAE—The Wrens, Thrashers, etc.

704—*Galeoscoptes carolinensis*—CATBIRD.
Common summer resident.

705—*Harporhynchus rufus*—BROWN THRASHER.
Common summer resident.

721—*Troglodytes aedon*—HOUSE WREN.
Abundant summer resident.

724—*Cistothorus stellaris*—SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN.
Migrant, not common.

725—*Cistothorus palustris*—LONG BILLED MARSH WREN.
Summer resident, not common.

Family CERTHIIDAE—The Creepers.

726—*Certhia familiaris americana*—BROWN CREEPER.
Chiefly migratory; abundant during spring and fall. The species winters as far north as latitude 45°, but has been seen here rarely during winter.

Family PARIDAE—The Nuthatches and Tits.

727—*Sitta carolinensis*—CAROLINA NUTHATCH.
Common at all seasons excepting summer; most abundant during spring. Recorded as a summer resident but once.

728—*Sitta canadensis*—CANADA NUTHATCH.
Migrant, very irregular; not often seen.

735—*Parus atricapillus*—CHICKADEE.
Common resident.

Family SYLVIIDAE—The Warblers and Kinglets.

748—*Regulus satrapa*—GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.
Abundant migrant.

749—*Regulus calendula*—RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.
Abundant migrant.

Family TURDIDAE—The Thrushes, etc.

755—*Turdus mustelinus*—WOOD THRUSH.
Summer resident, not common.

757—*Turdus aliciae*—GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.
Migrant, not common.

761—*Merula migratoria*—AMERICAN ROBIN.
Abundant summer resident.

766—*Sialia sialis*—BLUEBIRD.
Abundant summer resident.

Since the compilation of the foregoing list the following additional species have been observed:

151—*Glaucionetta clangula americana*—GOLDEN-EYE.
Migrant, not common.

327—*Elanoides forficatus*—SWALLOW-TAILED KITE.
A single specimen was seen on May 25th, 1896.

628—*Vireo flavifrons*—YELLOW-THROATED VIREO.
Rare summer resident.

Piping Plover Nests in Pottawatamie Co.

BARBARA L. WILSON
Rt. 1, Box 41
HASTINGS, IOWA 51540

LOREN AND BABS PADELFORD
1405 Little John Road
BELLEVUE, NEB. 60805

The Piping Plover has always been a rare breeder in Iowa. Except for one 19th century record at Grinnell (Cooke, 1888, cited in Brown, 1971), all nesting records are in the Missouri River area, and the earliest is from 1940. (There is, however, a 1922 breeding record near Lincoln, Nebraska (Pickwell, 1925). Unfortunately, subsequent channelization of the Missouri River allowed vegetation to cover what once were sand bars and beaches, and the plover's habitat disappeared. Dinsmore (1981) lists the Piping Plover as an extirpated breeder in Iowa, with the last nest record at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge in 1973.

There were two 1982 sightings suggestive of breeding. A pair of Piping Plover was discovered at Louisville Oxbow Lake in Monona County June 4-19, but no nest could be located (Kent, 1982). Adults found at Iowa Power and Light Company settling ponds July 10-18 may have been migrants, but no one checked the ponds in June, so breeding can not be ruled out.

This year, two Piping Plover nests were discovered at the Iowa Power and Light Company settling ponds south of Council Bluffs, for the first Iowa breeding record in ten years. At least two adults were seen beginning May 12. The first nest, found June 6, held four eggs but was abandoned by June 16. The second nest, belonging to a different pair, was found June 11 and hatched three young on June 22. At least one of these chicks survived long enough to fledge, as it was last seen on July 21. See the accompanying table for details of Piping Plover sightings at the ponds.

The plover habitat consisted of bottom ash from the boilers at the power plant. This substance, like sand or gravel in consistency, is mixed with water and pumped as a slurry into the ponds, where it settles out to form a beach. It is bare of vegetation except for a row of small willows down the center. These bushes apparently formed the boundary between the two plover territories and may have provided shade for the downy young. Both nests were located far from any cover, as is typical of Piping Plover nests.

Though use of such artificial habitats is unusual for Piping Plover, it is not unique. Switzer (1979) reports on this species breeding at an ash lagoon of a power plant in Saskatchewan.

Fall migrant Piping Plover were first observed at the settling ponds July 4 (7 birds). They peaked at 15 birds on July 7, and by July 14 all had gone. They were concentrated to the south of the willows, separate from the reamining breeding pair and their young, which were usually found on the north side. We hypothesized that this influx of plovers resulted from increased flows from Gavins Point Dam, which would flood the sand bars below it. That could not have been the case, however, as the water release was kept low until July 6.

Ralph Watts, power plant manager, has agreed to protect the plover and their habitat to the extent compatible with plant operations, so the birds should have a home in Pottawatamie County for several years to come. Birders seeing Piping Plovers at the ponds in future years are requested to send sighting to the authors. We also request that birders stay on the road and keep summer visits short to minimize disturbances to the birds.

Table 1. Piping Plover sightings at IPL settling ponds in 1983.

Date	Details	Observers
May 12	2 adults	WRS, BLW
May 19	2 adults	WRS, BLW
May 22	2 adults	L & BP
May 24	1 adult	L & BP
June 2	2 adults	BLW
June 4	2 adults	L & BP
June 6	Territory 1: 2 adults, 1 on nest; 2+ eggs	BLW
June 8	Territory 1: 2 adults, 1 on nest	BP
June 9	Territory 1: adult on nest Territory 2: 2 adults	BP, TB
June 11	Territory 1: 2 adults; 4 eggs; 3rd bird dead Territory 2: 1 adult on nest	L & BP
June 16	Territory 1: 2 adults away from nest; 4 eggs Territory 2: 1 adult, not on nest	L & BP
June 19	Territory 1: 4 eggs, no adults Territory 2: 1 adult	L & BP
June 22	Territory 2: 1 adult on nest while a 2nd chases a 3rd away from 2 downy young. Territory 1: 1 adult	L & BP
June 23	Territory 2: 3 adults; 1 with the 3 downy young, another chasing away Killdeer	L & BP
June 24	Territory 2: 2 adults, 3 downy young	BLW
July 1	3 adults, 3 young	L & BP
July 2	5 adults, 2 young	WRS
July 4	9 adults, 2 young	L & BP
July 5	13 adults, 3 young	L & BP
July 7	12 adults outside territory 2	TB, BP
July 7	Total of 17 plover	WRS
July 8	10 adults, 1 young	BLW
July 9	7 adults, 1 young	L & BP
July 12	7 adults, 1 young	L & BP
July 12	None in midafternoon	BLW
July 14	1 adult, 1 young	L & BP
July 19	1 adult	L & BP
July 21	1 adult, 1 young	BH
July 23	1 plover	J & SK
July 30	No plover	BLW

Observers: Tanya Bray, Bob Howe, Jim & Sandy Kovanda, Loren & Babs Padelford, W. Ross Silcock, Barbara L. Wilson.

Literature Cited

Brown, W.H. 1971. An annotated list of the birds of Iowa. **Iowa State Journal of Science** 45(3): 387-469.

Cooke, W.W. 188. Report on bird migration in the Mississippi valley in the years 1884 and 1885. **U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Economic Ornithology. Bulletin No. 2,** 313 pp.

Dinsmore, J.J. 1981. Iowa's avifauna: changes in the past and prospects for the future. **Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.** 88(1): 28-37.

Kent, T.H. 1982. Field Reports. **Iowa Bird Life** 52: 90.

Pickwell, G. 1925. Some nesting habits of the Belted Piping Plover. **Auk** 42: 326-332.

Switzer, F.A. 1979. Piping Plovers use man-made habitat. **Blue Jay** 37: 116.

FIELD REPORTS
SUMMER 1983

Thomas H. Kent, Field Reports Editor
211 Richards Street
Iowa City IA 52240

WEATHER AND HABITAT CONDITIONS (JPSa)

The only things typical of the weather during June and July were the extremes for which Iowa is well-known. Although June temperatures averaged near normal and precipitation only slightly more than usual, the month was notable for its record late rainfalls resulting in washed-out fields, floods, and much standing water. The heaviest rains occurred in the northwest--the 9.38 inch average there was the greatest in almost 100 years--and gradually diminished to none in the extremely dry southeast. Temperatures too revealed a similar pattern: northwest Iowa cooler than usual; southeast Iowa hotter and drier than normal. Temperatures varied from 33 F at Shenandoah on 6 June to 99 F at Fairfield late in the month.

July continued the hot, humid weather which began in late June. Almost no measurable precipitation fell in Iowa during the first three weeks in July. The long heat wave (107 F in Keosauqua on 22 July) and drought across the state together with the consistently high humidities caused discomfort and concern to the Hawkeye State.

Rivers, waterways, and reservoirs maintained high levels of water throughout the dry period because of the intensive June rains.

GENERAL TRENDS

High water levels provided some habitat for both late spring and early fall shorebird sightings. Extensive field work by several individuals continued to produce some unusual summer warblers and other deep woods birds, e.g., a Chestnut-sided Warbler nest, Hooded Warblers at several locations, Winter Wrens in NE Iowa. Two Carolina Wrens were welcome returnees.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

The most exciting find was a family of Great-tailed Grackles at Riverton A., the second record of this species in Iowa. Another House Finch appeared, this time at Davenport. Casual species included Buff-breasted Sandpiper and Prairie Warbler. Ringed Turtle-Dove continues to be seen at Davenport.

SPECIES DATA (* = documented)

Common Loon: 1 in winter plumage lingered at IPL Ponds throughout the period (m.ob.); another was at Willow Sl. on 1 Jun.

Pied-billed Grebe: 1 ad. with 5 yg. was at Waterloo on 19 Jun.

Eared Grebe: 1 was at Willow Sl. on 7 Jun (BLW), 2 at Colo on 9 Jun (HZ), and 1 at Sioux Center on 16 Jun (GBr).

American White Pelican: 39 were at Rice L., Winnebago Co. on 29 Jun (JLH, DN); 1 was at Ventura M. on 6 Jul (JLH); and up to 20 were at Forney L. during the summer (m.ob.).

Double-crested Cormorant: 20 were at Forney L. on 6 Jun (BLW) and up to 7 lingered there during the summer. Others included 1 at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 1 Jun (PP, LL), 3 at Big Wall L. on 6 Jun (JD), and 16 at Hendrickson M. on 23 Jun (HZ). A report of 1000 at L. Manawa on 18 Apr 1983 (CFS) was accompanied by a photograph of many in trees.

American Bittern: Singles were reported from several locations in Clay Co. (JD; Gary Phillips and Curt Rector fide RWH) and in Dickinson Co. (DCH).

Least Bittern: Singles were reported from Forney L. (m.ob.), Cooper's and Hendrickson marshes (PM), Sweet M. (RKM), Dewey's Pasture (Gary

Phillips and Curt Rector fide RWH), Jemmerson Sl. (HZ), and Spirit L. (EuA, EIA).

Great Blue Heron: Rookeries of 10 and 15 nests were noted s. of Volga, Clayton Co. (Rachelle Ridenour fide JD); 15 nests at West Swan L., Emmet Co., produced 23 yg. from 10 nests (Ron Howing fide JD).

Great Egret: 7 were at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 1 Jun (PP, LL) and 1 in Mills Co. on 9 Jun (TB, BPa); 6 had returned to the Coralville Res. by 29 Jul (CJB).

Little Blue Heron: Adults were noted on 11 Jun in E Johnson Co. (MCN) and on 23 Jul at Ankeny Ponds (JPSc) and Folsom L. (TB, BJR); an immature was at Sweet M. on 31 Jul (Russell Hays and Tom Stone fide RKM).

Cattle Egret: 1 was at Larson M. (m.ob.) and 3 were at Barringer Sl. on 4 Jun (JD, MBr); up to 10 were in Fremont and Mills counties during the period (m.ob.); others were in Pottawattamie and Monona counties (JK, SK; Jon Judson fide JD).

Black-crowned Night-Heron Nest building was noted at Jemmerson Sl. on 5 Jun (JD); 4 ad. and 9 imm. were at Forney L. on 4 Jun (BPa, LPa); others were noted in Clay and Palo Alto counties (Gary Phillips and Curt Rector fide JWH) and Big Sand Mound Pr. (PP, LL).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 1 was at Shimek F. on 5 Jun.

Snow Goose: Up to 14 lingered at Forney L. (m.ob.).

Canada Goose: Adults with 5 yg. were found at 2 Hardin Co. locations BPr, PH, NS), and a nest with eggs at Hendrickson M. was destroyed by a storm (PM).

Green-winged Teal: A nest with 11 eggs, said to be 4 days incubated, was found at Ventura M. on 27 May and all hatched by 17 Jun (JLH, KB, AH). Other Jun birds were at Cooper's M. on 1 Jun (PM), Dewey's Pasture on 4 Jun (MBr fide JD), Spring Run A. on 5 Jun (JD), s of Ruthven on 6 Jun (JD), and Mills Co. on 9 Jun (TB).

Northern Pintail: 3 were at Colo on 4 Jun and 22 were there on 2 Jul, suggesting that they nested (SD).

Northern Shoveler: 2-5 were at Colo (SD, JPSc, HZ), Waipiti M. (JD), and Spring Run A. (JD) in early Jun.

Gadwall: Pairs were at Dewey's Pasture and Waipiti M. on 4, 6 Jun (JD); 3 were at Willow Sl. on 16, 20 Jun (BLW, TB, BPa).

Canvasback: 3 were at Sioux Center on 6 Jun (GBr) and a pair was at Anderson L. on 10 Jun (MBr fide JD).

Redhead: 2 pair were at Forney L. on 18 Jun (RKM).

Ring-necked Duck: 3 were at Willow Sl. on 26 Jun (BLW) and 1 was at Goose L., Clinton Co., on 16 Jun (PP).

Lesser Scaup: A female with 4 yg. was at Sioux Center on 6 Jun and a male was there on 16 Jun (GBr).

Hooded Merganser: 1 was at Dewey's Pasture on 4 Jun (MBr fide JD); 3 were at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 15 Jun (PP, LL, CBl).

Red-breasted Merganser: A flying male was at Clear L. on 24 Jun (JLH).

Ruddy Duck: 8 were at Willow Sl. on 16 Jun (BLW); others were from NW Iowa.

Northern Harrier: 1 was at Lamoni on 5-6 Jul (JDG).

Cooper's Hawk: Singles were reported from Yellow River F. on 10 Jun (DK) and Forney L. on 9 Jul (PP).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 1-2 were noted at 3 Allamakee Co. locations (DK).

Broad-winged Hawk: 3-4 pair summered at Yellow River F. with a recently fledged bird seen on 30 Jul (DK).

Swainson's Hawk: None were reported.

American Kestrel: A nest with 2 young was found in N Marshall Co. (BPr, RS).

Gray Partridge: Singles were seen in Black Hawk and Bremer counties on 23 Jun (RKM, FM); 2 were south of the usual range in Mills Co. (Eric Nyren fide BLW).

Ruffed Grouse: 1 was found in Shimek F. on 5 Jun (DK).

Wild Turkey: A bird with young was seen in Yellow River F. on 12 Jun (EuA, EIA).

Common Moorhen: 6 chicks were at New Albin on 22 Jun (EuA, EIA); 3

immatures were at Goose L., Clinton Co., on 13 Jul (LL fide PP); and another bird was at Swan L., Emmet Co., on 20 Jul (HZ).

Black-bellied Plover: 1 was late at Colo on 1 Jun (PM).

Lesser Golden-Plover: 8 were late at Colo on 1 Jun (PM); 8 fall migrants were in Grundy Co. on 30 Jul (FM).

Semipalmated Plover: The earliest were 2 at Ankeny Ponds on 23 Jul (JPSc).

Piping Plover: 2 nests were found at IPL Ponds, Pottawattamie Co. The first had 4 eggs on 8 Jun and was abandoned on 16 Jun; the second was found on 11 Jun and hatched 3 young. A peak of 17 birds, presumably including migrants, were at the same location on 7 Jul (m.ob., see longer note).

American Avocet: 1 was very late at Colo on 6 Jun (HZ).

Greater Yellowlegs: Singles were at Bartlett on 22 Jul (TB, BPa, SK) and at Coralville Res. on 31 Jul (TK, MN, TJS).

Solitary Sandpiper: The earliest was in N Fremont Co. on 3 Jul (WRS).

Willet: 9 were at IPL Ponds on 2 Jul (BLW, WRS, FM) and singles were noted at Ankeny Ponds on 26 Jul (SD) and Coralville Res. on 29 Jul (CJB).

Spotted Sandpiper: A nest with 4 eggs found at Union Sl. N.W.R. on 8 Jun hatched young on 15 or 16 Jun (JLH, EK, KB, JKl).

Upland Sandpiper: An ad. and 3 half-grown yg. were near Lamoni on 22 Jun (JDG). From 1 to 7 were reported from the following counties: Bremer, Buchanan, Cedar, Clinton, Dallas, Decatur, Delaware, Emmet, Johnson, Linn, Pocahontas, Poweshiek, Story, and Winneshiek.

Ruddy Turnstone: 1 was late at IPL Ponds on 4 Jun (TB, BPa, LPa); 1 at Coralville Res. on 31 Jul (TK, MN, TJS) set a record early date.

Sanderling: Late birds were 5 at Amana on 3 Jun (CJB) and 2 at IPL Ponds on 2 Jun (BLW, WRS).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Late migrants were 28 at Colo on 9 Jun and 28 at Ames on 5 Jun (JPSc). Exceptionally early fall migrants were 4 in N Fremont Co. on 4 Jul (WRS); a peak of 120 were at Ankeny Ponds on 26 Jul (SD).

Western Sandpiper: No details were given for the only one reported.

Least Sandpiper: The earliest noted were 7 at Coralville Res. on 10 Jul (TK, CJB) and 3 in N Fremont Co. on 11 Jul (WRS).

White-rumped Sandpiper: 3 each were still at Colo on 9 Jun and Ames on 5 Jun (JPSc); a fall report was undocumented. (This species is not expected in fall).

Baird's Sandpiper: A possible mid-Jun sighting will be referred to the Records Committee. Fall migrants were first noted on 24 Jul: 4 in N Fremont Co. (WRS) and 2 at Coralville Res. (TK, TJS).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 at Colo on 9 Jun (JPSc) was very late. 1 had returned to Coralville Res. by 10 Jul (TK, CJB) and 300 were there on 31 Jul (TK).

Dunlin: 1 was still at Colo on 9 Jun (HZ, JPSc).

Stilt Sandpiper: The earliest were 4 at Colo on 14 Jul (HZ) and peak was 50 at Coralville Res. on 29 Jul (CJB).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 1 was at Amana on 29 Jul (CJB).

Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 was seen and heard at IPL Ponds on 8 Jul (BLW); singles were seen at Coralville Res. on 24 (TK) and 31 Jul (TK, TJS, MN).

Common Snipe: An adult in breeding plumage in N Fremont Co. on 3-7 Jul (WRS) was quite unusual.

Wilson's Phalarope: June birds included 1 at Colo on 4 Jun (SD, JPSc), 1 at Sioux Center on 7 Jun (GBr), and 3 at Cardinal M. on 11 Jun (DK). Two at Riverton A. on 2 Jul followed by a juvenile and female there on 15 Jul (*WRS) suggests possible nesting at this SW Iowa location.

Red-necked Phalarope: 1-2 were at Colo on 1-2 Jun (PM, HZ) and another was reported at Ankeny Ponds on 4 Jun (HZ); a further sighting at Colo on 22 Jun (HZ) is most unusual.

Franklin's Gull: 120 were at Forney L. on 4 Jun (BPa, LPa), 2 at Amana on 6 Jun (CJB, LH), and 8 at Willow Sl. on 7 Jun (BLW); 10 in the Ruthven area on 5-6 Jun (JD) were at a more typical location.

Ring-billed Gull: Singles were at Forney L., Mills Co., and L. Manawa on 4, 9, and 22 Jun (BPa); 3 were at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 29 Jun (PP); 35 were at West Okoboji on 5 Jun (JD); and 150 were at Sabula on 16 Jul (SD).

Herring Gull: 1 at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 29 Jun (PP) was unusual.

Caspian Tern: July records were 1 at IPL Ponds on 5 Jul (BPa, LPa), 3 at Montezuma on 6 Jul (DK), 1 at Waterloo on 24 Jul (RKM), and 2 at Big Creek S.P. on 26 Jul (SD).

Common Tern: 2 birds with dark primaries were at Forney L. on 6 Jun (BLW).

Forster's Tern: Up to 33 were noted at Jemmerson Sl. in early Jun (JD, DCH) with nesting in late Jun (MBr fide JD).

Least Tern: Up to 6 were at IPL Ponds during the period but no nests were found (m.ob.).

Black Tern: Nesting was reported from Spring Run A. (JD), Dewey's Pasture (MBr fide JD), and State Line M., Kossuth Co. (MBr fide JD). Concentrations of 50 were at Forney L. on 4 Jun (BPa, LPa) and 27 at IPL Ponds on 12 Jul (BLW).

Ringed Turtle-Dove: 1 was seen in W Davenport from 1 to 31 Jul (Frank Sellman and Mrs. Dale Moritz fide PP).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Only 4 contributors mentioned this species.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 20 were noted in Fremont Co. on 9 Jun (TB, BPa).

Common Barn-Owl: 1 was seen in the early evening of 8 Jul in Boone Co. (*BE).

Short-eared Owl: 1 was seen at Dewey's Pasture on 22 May and 4 Jun and another at Anderson L. on 10 Jun (MBr fide JD).

Chuck-will's-widow: Up to 6 were seen at the usual location n of Waubonsie S.P. (EuA, m.ob.).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Koenig counted birds in the following counties: Allamakee (14), Clayton (2), Dubuque (2), and Van Buren (2); 7 were seen at Ledges S.P. (SD, JD, JPSc).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 12 were found in Allamakee Co. (DK).

Hairy Woodpecker: Koenig had the following county counts: Allamakee (7), Clayton (2), Lee (3), Van Buren (2).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Singles were late at McFarland P. on 8 Jun (PM), Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 6 Jun (DK), and Big Sand Mound Pr. on 1 Jun (PP, LL).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Late migrants were in Van Buren Co. on 6 Jun (DK) and Ames on 1 Jun (JPSc).

Acadian Flycatcher: Koenig's county counts, probably the greatest numbers ever reported, were as follows: Allamakee (26), Clayton (3), Dubuque (13), and Van Buren (8). One was still singing in the Amana Woods on 24 Jul (CJB, TJS, TK).

Alder Flycatcher: Singles noted at several locations continued to provide evidence of the late migration of this species: 8 and 15 Jun in Mills Co. (BLW), 4 Jun in Iowa City (TJS), 3 Jun at Ames (JPSc), and 1 Jun at Grammar Grove P. (BPr).

Willow Flycatcher: 1 to 11 were noted from the following counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Cedar, Clayton, Clinton, Fremont, Johnson, Louisa, Mahaska, Mills, Story, Poweshiek, and Winneshiek.

Least Flycatcher: June locations were Lacey-Keosauqua S.P., White Pine Hollow, Marquette, and Yellow River F. (DK).

Say's Phoebe: None have been reported for 1983.

Purple Martin: Although numbers were reportedly down at Elkhart, Mosman banded 190 nestlings.

Tree Swallow: A pair nested in a bluebird house at Elkhart (DDM).

Cliff Swallow: Reportedly numerous in C and SW Iowa, with 600 in SW Iowa on 29 Jul (WRS).

Carolina Wren: Singles appeared briefly in Ames on 6 Jul (SD, JPSc) and Iowa City on 7 Jul (TK).

Winter Wren: 5, possibly a family group were found in Dubuque Co. on 4 Jul and singles were noted at Effigy Mounds on 10 Jun and Pikes Peak S.P. on 26 Jun (DK).

Marsh Wren: 2 at Union from 4 to 29 Jun probably nested (BPr, PH,

MPr).

Eastern Bluebird: 25 nests at Elkhart was the second highest (27 in 1982) (DDM); 60 percent of 28 nests failed in NE Mills Co. (BLW).

Veery: 1 on 5 Jun in Monona Co. (Andy Saunders and Neil Ratslaff fide TB) was likely a late migrant. Midsummer birds were 13 in Dubuque Co. on 18 Jun (DK), 1 in Poweshiek Co. on 30 Jun and 4 Jul (DK), and 3 at Ledges S.P. on 4 Jul (SD, JD, JPSc).

Swainson's Thrush: Late migrants included singles in Des Moines (banded, RL, CML) and Pottawattamie Co. (RWH) on 2 Jun and Mills Co. on 1 Jun (singing, RWH).

Wood Thrush: Numbers were reported from several E Iowa locations, e.g., White Pine Hollow (12), Yellow River F. (10), Shimek F. (7), Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (5), Sharon Bluffs S.P. (5). C and W Iowa locations included 5 at Montezuma (DK), 1 at Ames (PM), 2 at Viking L., Montgomery Co. (TB), and 1 at Preparation Canyon (BPa, LPa).

Northern Mockingbird: 2 at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 4 Jun (RC); 1 n of Iowa City on 26 Jun (TJS); 1 in Fremont Co. on 2 Jul (FM, WRS).

Cedar Waxwing: Small flocks were noted throughout the period from 8 locations; 200 were at Amana Woods on 12 Jun (CJB).

Loggerhead Shrike: Birds were reported from 7 counties.

White-eyed Vireo: Reports were from Buchanan, Fremont, Iowa, Johnson, and Poweshiek counties.

Bell's Vireo: 12 were at Hawthorn L. on 16 Jul (DK); 1-2 were found in Bremer, Fremont, Madison, and Poweshiek counties.

Yellow-throated Vireo: Koenig found 70 during the period.

Red-eyed Vireo: Koenig found 114 during the period.

Blue-winged Warbler: The highest location count was 9 at Yellow River F. (DK); other locations were Shimek F., Lacey-Keosauqua S.P., Ledges S.P., Amana Woods, Jones Co., Clayton Co., and Volga River A.

Tennessee Warbler: 1 was late in Ames on 6 Jun (PM).

Northern Parula: Locations follow the Des Moines and Mississippi Rivers: Lee and Van Buren counties (RWH, JPSa, RC, DK), Ledges S.P. (BPr et al.), Wapello Co. (RWH), and Big Sand Mound Pr. (PP). One at Preparation Canyon on 4 Jul (BPa, LPa) was more unusual.

Yellow Warbler: 42 were at Marquette on 6 Jun (DK).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2 males were territorial in Yellow River F. on 2 Jun and one male was feeding a nestling cowbird there on 21 Jul (DK). Another male was found in Volga River A. on 8 Jul (RKM).

Black-throated Green Warbler: 1 was late at Wildcat Den S.P. on 1 Jun (PP, MLP, LL).

Yellow-throated Warbler: 2 males were at Ledges S.P. on 4 Jul (JD, SD, JPSc) and 5 were at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 28 Jun (JPSa).

Prairie Warbler: 1 was seen and heard 2 e of Bonaparte in Van Buren Co. on 13 Jun (*RWH).

Blackpoll Warbler: 1 was late at Ames on 1 Jun (PM).

Cerulean Warbler: The peak number was 26 in Allamakee Co. (DK) and the most westerly at Ledges S.P. (JD, SD, JPSc).

Prothonotary Warbler: 3 pair bred at Big Sand Mound Pr. (PP).

Worm-eating Warbler: An intensive search for this species in SE Iowa yielded 3 at Shimek F. on 14 Jun (RWH), 2 at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (David Bowles fide RWH), and 1 at Wildcat Den S.P. (Jon Stravers fide RWH). The only other location was 1 at Amana Woods on 12 Jun (CJB).

Ovenbird: Koenig noted 25 at Yellow River F. on 10 Jun, 21 at Shimek F. on 5 Jun, and 19 at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 4 Jun. One was found at Preparation Canyon in W Iowa on 4 Jul (BPa, LPa).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Small numbers were reported from the usual locations; 13 were in Dubuque Co. on 18 Jun, including a nest with 5 eggs (DK).

Kentucky Warbler: Most were from typical locations, with 22 in Allamakee Co. (DK) and 15 in Lee and Van Buren counties from 11 to 14 Jun (RWH). Singles reported separately from Monona Co. on 5 Jun (GBr; Andy Saunders and Neil Ratslaff fide TB) were more unusual.

Mourning Warbler: 1 heard and seen at Bloody Run, Clayton Co., on 9 Jun (RWH) was probably a late migrant.

Hooded Warbler: 1 was at Brown's Woods, Des Moines, on 3 Jun (RL); 3 males were at Amana Woods on 6 Jun (RKM); and 2 birds were at Yellow River F. (DK).

Canada Warbler: 2 were found again in Dubuque Co. on 18 Jun (DK).

Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 4 Jun, 1 at Grinnell on 22 Jun, and 4 at Hawthorn L. on 16 Jul (DK); singles at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 1 Jun (PP, LL), n of Iowa City on 24 Jun (TJS), Sweet M. on 26 Jun (RKM), and in S Van Buren Co. on 28 Jun (JPSa).

Summer Tanager: Reports were from Monona Co. on 5 Jun (Neil Ratslaff fide TB), Van Buren W.A. on 6 Jun (DK), w of Argyle, Lee Co., on 12 Jun (RWH), Preparation Canyon on 4 Jul (BPa, LPa), and Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 5 Jul (JPSa).

Scarlet Tanager: 1 was in Monona Co. on 5 Jun (Andy Saunders fide TB).

Lark Sparrow: A nest with 5 young was found at Big Sand Mound Pr. on 1 Jun (PP, LL), and a pair with young were in Sioux Co. on 23 Jul (GBr); other reports were from Fremont and Mills counties.

Henslow's Sparrow: 2 were found at Volga River A. on 8 Jul (RKM), a new location for this species. One was at Hayden Pr. on 17 Jul (SD).

Bobolink: A flock of 80 were e of Decorah on 31 Jul (JPSc).

Western Meadowlark: 1 was noted on 4 Jun at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (RC), an area where easterns predominate.

Great-tailed Grackle: Two males and a female were discovered at Riverton A. and the female was feeding 1 to 2 young on 9 and 15 Jul (*WRS, *FM, *BLW, *PP).

Orchard Oriole: Reports were from Story, Mahaska, Poweshiek, Johnson, and Muscatine counties.

House Finch: A male visited a Davenport feeder on 17 Jun (*Bill and Ann Barker).

CONTRIBUTORS

Eugene Armstrong, Booneville; Bill and Ann Barker, Davenport; Carl J. Bendorf, Iowa City; Gordon Brand, Orange City; Tanya Bray, Omaha NE; Raymond Cummins, Pocahontas; James Dinsmore, Ames; Steve Dinsmore, Ames; Bruce Ehresman, Boone; J. Donald Gillaspey, Lamoni; James L. Hansen, Clear Lake; Ronald V. Harms, Laurens; Douglas C. Harr, Larchwood; Robert W. Howe, Des Moines; Thomas Kent, Iowa City; Darwin Koenig, Montezuma; Rene Laubach, Des Moines; Steve Lekwa; Paul Martsching, Ames; Francis L. Moore, Waterloo; D. Dean Mosman, Elkhart; Robert K. Myers, Waterloo; Michael C. Newlon, Iowa City; Babs Padelford, Bellevue NE; Loren Padelford, Bellevue NE; Peter Petersen, Davenport; Beth Proescholdt, Liscomb; James P. Sandrock, Iowa City; Joseph P. Schaufenbuel, St Lucas; Conrad F. Schlemmer, Council Bluffs; W. Ross Silcock, Malvern; Thomas J. Staudt, Iowa City; David Webber, Montezuma; Barbara L. Wilson, Hastings; and Hank Zaletel, Ames.

OTHER OBSERVERS

Eloise Armstrong (EuA); Kurt Baker (JLH); Brian Blevins (PP); Corey Blevins (PP); Mike Brown (JD); Lanny Haldy (CJB); Al Hancock (JLH); Phyllis J. Harris (BPr); Erv Klaas (JLH); Jim Kline (JLH); James Kovanda (TB); Sandy Kovanda (TB); Larry Linder (PP); Christyna M. Laubach (RL); Dave Newhouse (JLH); Mary Lou Petersen (PP); Mark Proescholdt (BPr); B. J. Rose (TB); Nancy Slife (BPr); and Ramona Sommerlot (BPr).

COMMENT

I would like to thank Carl Bendorf and Tom Staudt for compiling most of the data for the summer season. I wish I could thank Jim Sandrock for the weather in addition to his excellent report. Although the season was hot and unexciting, coverage remained reasonable. The surveys of wooded areas in E Iowa by Darwin Koenig and Bob Howe and colleagues were particularly useful.

GENERAL NOTES



Chestnut-sided Warbler Nest — On July 21, 1983 Edwin Miller, David Webber and I found a nest of the Chestnut-sided Warbler (**Dendroica pensylvanica**) in Section 3, Deep River Township, Poweshiek County, Iowa. We were first attracted to the nest area when we saw the male with a worm in its mouth. As we approached closer, the male began scolding us. After a short seach we found the nest in a patch of blackberries (**Rubus sp.**). The nest contained one young Brown-headed Cowbird (**Molothrus ater**) approximately half-grown.

The nest was attached to blackberry and multiflora rose (**Rosa multiflora**) stems and was about 2½ feet above the ground. The habitat was an old pasture, overgrown with honey locust (**Gleditsia triacanthos**), hawthorn (**Crataegus sp.**), blackberry and multiflora rose. Mature oak-hickory woodland bounded the area of three sides.

Prior to 1900, the Chestnut-sided Warbler nested throughout Iowa, although it was locally distributed (Anderson 1907). It soon disappeared as a breeding bird however, as neither DuMont (1933) nor Brown (1971) knew of any nesting records in this century. Adults feeding fledged young out of the nest were found at the Volga River Recreation Area on July 6, 1978 (Schaufenbuel 1979). Other summer reports and possible nesting of the Chestnut-sided Warbler were summarized by Schaufenbuel (1979).

Literature Cited

Anderson, R.M. 1907. The Birds of Iowa. **Proc. Davenport Acad. Sci.** 11:125-417.

Brown, W.H. 1971. An annotated list of the birds of Iowa. **Iowa State Jour. Sci.** 45:387-469.

DuMont, P.A. 1933. A revised list of the birds of Iowa. **Univ. Iowa Stud. Nat. Hist.** 15(5):1-171.

Schaufenbuel, J.P. 1979. Recent breeding records of uncommon or rare birds of Iowa. **Iowa Bird Life** 49:104-107. Darwin Koenig, Box 389, Montezuma, Iowa 50171.

BOOK REVIEWS



The Living Birds of Eric Ennion — John Busby — Victor Gollaniz-David & Charles, North Pomfret, Vt. — 128 p., 60 p. of color illus. — 1982 — $21.00.

Most Americans are probably not familiar with Eric Ennion. He was a British doctor who turned to nature in his later years and established Field Study Centers where anyone could come to study nature. He also wrote and broadcast to reach a large audience. His work does not include great detail but shows the subject in various activities which convey the feel of the bird nicely. His hope was that people would learn to see and enjoy birds as they really are and this well produced book provides insight into his approach. ed.

The Hummingbirds of North America — Paul A. Johnsgard — Smithsonian Inst. Press, Wash. D.C. — 303 p., 16 color plates, 20 maps — 1983 — $35.00.

The book covers only the 23 hummingbird species recorded in the United States. They are illustrated in color, their ranges mapped and for each the author provides range, details subspecies, measurements, weights, complete descriptions, identification points, habits, movements, foraging behavior, floral ecology, breeding biology and evolutionary and ecological relationships. Several appendices treat the origins of Latin names, a key to identification, a synopsis for all species of the world (name and range), a synoptic identification guide for all species in key form, an index to location of color plates in various references and hummingbird-adapted plants of North America. A glossary, 200 entry bibliography and index round out the book. It is up to the author's usual high standard and if it were entitled "hummingbirds of the U.S." one could find no overall fault. ed.

Birds of Southern California's Deep Canyon — Wesley W. Weathers — U. of California Press, Berkeley — 266 p., 28 color photos, many maps, b & w photos, line drawings, maps and charts — 1983 — $35.00.

The Deep Canyon is a diverse area lying between Palm Desert and Santa Rosa Mountain in the central part of Southern California. The area dealt with is 19 km wide and 34 km long, about 240 sq. miles. To date 217 species have been recorded with 112 breeding species. For each breeder the author discusses the local distribution, population, dynamics and ecology. The bird communities of each habitat are also carefully examined. I visited Santa Rosa Mountain in 1979 and was impressed by the diversity in the 8,700 foot gradient's natural habitat. The book is an excellent study of a very small geographic area and can serve as a good model for other workers. ed.

Once Upon a River — Bird Life and Habitat Changes on the Middle Gila — Amadeo M. Rea — Univ. of Arizona Press, Tucson — 285 p., 29 b & w photos — 1983 — $24.50.

Many rivers in the Southwest have dried up due to trapping of beaver, overgrazing, woodcutting and damming. The Gila is representative and this story of the fate of its bird life is typical. The book presents species accounts of the birds and relates this to the broader question of habitat deteriroation. For each species the author discusses ethnographic background, historic and modern records, taxonomy and change. It is a valuable documentation of a problem of great concern for all interested in the environment. ed.

Hummingbirds — A. J. Mobbs, 192 p., 32 color photos — L-18.00 and **Parrots, Lories and Cockatoos** — David Alderton — 186 p., 8 color plates — L 9.50 — both 1982, dist. by Saiga Pub. Co. Ltd., Surry, U.K.

These two books are covered primarily to indicate they are avicultural titles with little application for birders. The parrot book does include range maps and some descriptive notes. ed.

The Birds and Birdlore of Samoa — Corey & Shirley Muse — Pioneer Press, Walla Walla, WA — 156 p., 77 color photos and illus. — 1982 — paperbound, $15.00.

This little book would be quite useful for anyone birding Samoa. It covers 72 species, of which 37 are residents and all but 6 of these are endemics. The authors, who taught on the islands, also include many Samoan legends which relate to birds. The size permits easy inclusion for the airline traveler who might be visiting several South Pacific locations. ed.

SCANS Key to Birdwatching — Virginia C. Homgren — Timber Press, Portland, OR — 176 p., many line drawings — 1983 — paperbound, $12.95.

Here is another approach to birding for the novice. This one features scanning to identify by size, colors, actions and notes (calls). The book starts with small birds and each page has a letter color code on the margin. As with all systems of keys the category assignment must be correct or you get in the wrong group. Very large is a group including birds as small as a Ruddy Duck for example. Another problem comes with the inclusion of only 200 species in the key with other species just mentioned. I suspect most beginners will probably find a conventional field guide with color plates more useful. ed.

Banquets for Birds — Patrice Benneward — Nat. Audubon Soc., 950 3rd Ave., NY — 25 p. — 1983 — paperbound, $1.60 post. incl.

This nicely done little booklet is subtitled "Suggestions for Supplementary Feeding." It provides a concise outline for attracting birds including plantings and water needs. It contains a chart on food preference and should prove as useful to the neophite to feeding birds as most expensive volumes. ed.

How to Attract Birds — Michael McKinley — Ortho Books, San Francisco — 96 p., 155 color ph. — 1983 — paperbound — $5.95.

This offering is more complete than the Aud. Soc. booklet and includes some identification information and photos. The drawings of watering, feeding and houses are very well done and helpful. Unfortunately three pair of photos have the captions reversed and another is incorrect. Despite this drawback the book is overall quite valuable for one getting into bird feeding. ed.

American Ornithologists' Union

THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, oldest and largest of the ornithological societies in North America, is celebrating the hundredth anniversary of its founding in 1983. Its quarterly journal, THE AUK, now includes about 1,000 pages a year of papers on a wide variety of ornithological topics. The long-awaited sixth edition of the AOU Checklist of North American Birds will be published in time for the centennial meeting. If interested in knowing more about the AOU please write to Membership Chairman Dr. Gustav A. Swanson, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colo. 80523.

XIX Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus

At the XVIII International Ornithological Congress in Moscow the International Ornithological Committee accepted the invitation of the National Museum of Natural Sciences of Canada and of the Canadian ornithological community to hold the XIX Congress in Canada. The Congress will be held in Ottawa, Canada, from 22-29 June 1986. It elected Dr. Prof. Klaus Immelmann (West Germany) as President of the Congress. Dr. Henri Ouellet (Canada) was designated as Secretary-General.

Details about the general and scientific programs, field excursions, and other activities during the Congress will be available later.

Those interested in participating in the Congress are urged to inform the Secretariat in order to obtain announcements and application forms. Correspondence should be addressed to The Secretary-General, Dr. Henri Ouellet, XIX Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus, National Museum of Natural Sciences, National Museums of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0M8.

3rd Annual Field School Scheduled Mines of Spain Autumn Seminar

OCTOBER 14, 15 and 16, 1983

The Mines of Spain "Autumn Seminar" is an unique two and one-half day field school that offers a diverse program of cultural and natural resource studies taught by distinguished researchers, educators, and historians. The setting for the seminar is the Paleozoic plateau landform region of northeastern Iowa; the focus is the Mines of Spain, an ecologically and culturally rich 1,260-acre nature reserve located along the bluffs of the Mississippi River south of Dubuque, Iowa. The Autumn Seminar is designed to provide a range of educational opportunities for persons interested in ecology and cultural history. Participants include conservationists, nature enthusiasts, historians, educators, and students.

The Mines of Spain Autumn Seminar is cosponsored by the Iowa Conservation Commission and the State Preserves Advisory Board. The Autumn Seminar will be held rain or shine outdoors. Participatns will be responsible for their own lodging. A primitive camping area will be made available to participants wishing to camp. Program registration cost is $20 per person. The Saturday evening banquet is $20, and the evening Riverboat Cruise is $2. For registration information contact: Ken Smith, Conservation Recreation Planner, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, 515-281-5815.

I.O.U. Materials

Available from Mrs. Patricia Layton, Librarian, 1580 Linmar Dr., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52402.

Birding Areas of Iowa — Peter C. Petersen, ed—1979—**$4.85 postage paid.**

Iowa Bird Life—back issues—$2.00 each, postage paid or inquire.

Available from Hank Zaletel, Treas., 715 West St., Colo, Ia. 50056.

Reporting Obs. of Birds Seen in Iowa, T. H. Kent—from **I.B.L.**—1981—$2.00 postage paid.

Checklist of Iowa Birds (1982 **I.B.L.**) $2.00 postage paid.

I.O.U. Decals (for outside windows)—$.70 postage paid.

I.O.U. Arm Patches—$1.70 postage paid.

I.O.U. Field Checklists—1983—one .25 postage paid; 6-.60 postage paid; 12-$1.00 postage paid; 25-$1.60 postage paid; 50-$3.00 postage paid, sample enclosed.

All checks payable to The Iowa Ornithologists' Union.

Request for information on the Red-shouldered Hawk (**Buteo lineatus**).

Please send any information on. . .

—possible nesting locations

—any spring, summer, or late winter sightings

Please include date, number sighted, county, township, section(s), and name of nearest stream to — Jon Stravers, P.O. Box 32, Pella, IA 50219

Any I.O.U. members interested in the Red-shouldered Hawk nesting survey are invited to participate.

Dues notices are enclosed.

Please pay your dues promptly.